

TWRS EIS COMMUNICATION RECORD

Date of meeting or telephone conversation
September 19, 1995

Participants or Attendees (with organization):
Gerry Marsh, Facilities Director, Richland School District

Subject(s) Discussed/Summary of Discussions:

Gerry and I discussed current and projected enrollment conditions at Richland public schools. Enrollment for the 1995-96 school year is up one percent over last years enrollment. Gerry speculated that layoffs have not been reflected for several reasons:

- Early separations were voluntary early retirements and that age class does not have as many children per capita as younger employees.
- Many of those laid off may be living off of separation pay and/or savings and will remain in the area until the last minute waiting for a turn around in employment
- The Trii-Cities has successfully diversified to some extent and other work is available so more people are staying in the area in comparison to trends during earlier layoffs at the Site
- All of the above

The Richland School District is operating at near capacity. The elementary schools currently are over capacity and are using 20 portable classrooms. The secondary schools are approaching capacity. 4th, 5th and 6th grades are the largest classes. When this bulge reaches the secondary level, the middle and high schools will also exceed capacity. Without growth, more space is needed. If 150 to 850 students were added over the next eight years additional capacity would be needed, starting with new elementary schools and eventually new secondary schools.

Issues/Concerns Identified (Unresolved questions):
None

Required actions:
None

Prepared/recorded by: L. Dean, ASI, Richland

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Distribution: A. Bachrach

